

## Chapter 18

### 1900-1914: The Progressive Era and the Great War

I. **Progressivism:** ideological movement of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century that favored achieving political and social reform through education and wider political participating by all classes of society.

- A. Early 1800's: 5 million Americans in 13 states
- B. Early 1900's: 76 million Americans in 45 states
- C. A person could almost have lived the entire history of the United States
- D. For pioneers, crossing the Plains and Southwest to get to CA was a life or death struggle.
- E. For the Progressives, it could be done in about a week with little or no effort at all.

- 1. kerosene
- 2. Gas
- 3. Electric Light
- 4. Running Water
- 5. Water closets
- 6. Life span
  - a. Women: 51
  - b. Men: 48

II. A new president

- A. William McKinley was assassinated in September 1901
  - 1. Politically conservative Republican
  - 2. Favored Big Business
  - 3. Favored little Government
- B. Vice-President Theodore Roosevelt became President
  - 1. Politically Progressive Republican
  - 2. Favored Big Government
  - 3. Wanted to curb abuses and give fair treatments to all Americans

III. What a Progressive wants

- A. Reform
  - 1. Some were moral Americans seeking greater freedoms and an end to corruption
  - 2. Some were Reform Darwinist
    - a. Man is constantly evolving and improving
    - b. Wanted direct government action to achieve reform
    - c. Direct Democracy
      - 1.
      - 2.
      - 3.
      - 4.
      - 5.
- B. Reformers helped humanize industry
  - a. Gave workers names
  - b. Showed how hard they work
  - c. Usually loosely affiliated groups

- d. Some fought for social justice
- e. Some for social welfare that would protect children, women, and factory workers
- 1. Working toward
  - a. Prohibiting immigration
  - b. Prohibiting alcohol and drugs
  - c. Ending prostitution
  - d. Getting rid of slums
- 2. Also implemented Social Darwinism
  - a. Less emphasis on absolute truth
  - b. More emphasis on relativity of ideas

#### IV. Amending the Constitution

- A. Sixteenth Amendment
  - 1. Ratified in 1913
  - 2. Established the income tax
    - a. Progressives liked this
    - b. Provides government with funds to initiate reforms
    - c. Graduated
    - d. The more money a person makes, the higher the taxes
- B. Seventeenth Amendment
  - 1. Direct election of senators
  - 2. Before this time House of Rep was direct elected but the senators were appointed by state legislatures
- C. Eighteenth Amendment
  - 1. Prohibition: Banning of the manufacture, sale, and transportation of alcoholic beverages
  - 2. Very controversial
  - 3. Repealed by 21<sup>st</sup> amendment
  - 4. Something agreed up by Progressives and Christians
  - 5. Business men liked it for stopping alcohol related absences from work
  - 6. World War I grain shortage made alcohol appear to be wasteful because they could use the grain to feed the troops
- D. Nineteenth Amendment
  - 1. Granted women's suffrage
  - 2. Getting the vote was a cause a long time in the making (50 years)
  - 3. Early leaders
    - a. Elizabeth Cady Stanton
    - b. Susan B. Anthony
  - 4. Women were angry that black males (many of whom were former slaves) received vote before they did
  - 5. More women working outside of home at this time
  - 6. 1870: 60% working women were in domestic service (maids)  
1920: 20%
  - 7. 1880: 1 in 21 women were divorced  
1916: 1 in 9
  - 8. Some states granted the vote before the national government
    - a. Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, Idaho

- b. Only New Mexico was left by 1914
  - V. Others seeking reform
    - A. Muckrakers
      - 1. Authors and journalists who exposed abuse and corruption in business and industry
        - a. Ida Tarbell History of Standard Oil
        - b. Upton Sinclair The Jungle
    - B. Socialists
      - 1. extreme progressives who advocated government ownership of production and distributions
      - 2. Eugene Debs ran for president five times under the socialist party
- VI. Progressive Presidents
  - A. Theodore Roosevelt
    - 1. 1901-1909
    - 2. Rough Riders
    - 3. Teddy Bear
    - 4. National Parks
  - B. William Howard Taft
    - 1. 1909-1913
    - 2. 7<sup>th</sup> inning stretch (may or may not be true as sources differ)
    - 3. Air conditioning in the White House
    - 4. Supreme Court Chief Justice after being President
  - C. Woodrow Wilson
    - 1. 1913-1921
    - 2. Stroke during office during his recovery, his wife advised and made decisions for him  
(Do you think this makes her the first woman president?)
    - 3. Married for a second time while President but not in the White House
    - 4. Reelected on an anti war platform and then plunged America into war
- VII. Theodore Roosevelt (often called T. R . or Teddy)
  - A. Believed that every man and woman should receive fair treatment and have equal opportunity
  - B. Fought against Trusts and Monopolies “trust buster”
  - C. Hepburn Act
    - 1. Strengthened the Interstate Commerce Act ( review) and its ability to regulate rail road rates
  - D. Pure Food and Drug Act
    - 1. Outlawed sale of impure drugs and food across state lines
    - 2. Required honest labeling of products
    - 3. Meat Inspection Act
      - a. Dept of Agriculture was to oversee preparation and packaging of meat as well as monitoring animals BEFORE they were slaughtered to make sure they were healthy
      - b. *The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair
        - 1. Graphic portrayal of filthy conditions in Chicago’s meat packing plant

E. Coal Strike

1. Coal is major fuel source still
2. Miners went on strike and the people were concerned there would not be enough coal for winter if the strike continued
3. T.R. stepped in and arranged a meeting between owners and miners
  - a. Threatened to use troops to work the mines
4. Miners were given 10 cent raise and a nine hour work day

F. Conservation

1. Reclamation Act of 1902
  - a. Claimed 100 million acres of western land as National Park Land
  - b. Set up the National Conservation Commission

G. Race Relations

1. In San Francisco they tried to segregate Asian students when Japan protested, T.R. stepped in and settled the issue
  - a. No segregation
  - b. Decreased Japanese immigration
2. In the South
  - a. T.R. invited Booker T. Washington to White House for dinner
  - b. Designed to look good rather than really help
  - c. T.R. was trying to build a bi-racial coalition among southern republicans
  - d. Before 1890's the people in power in the south attempted to have better race relations but then came "Jim Crow"
  - e. 1890's is when the "Jim Crow" laws were passed by southern legislators
    1. Black people could not...
      - a. Cut a white persons hair
      - b. Nurse sick white people
      - c. Drink from the same fountains
    2. Literacy tests were est. for voting
  - f. Two different views on how blacks should handle these new regulations
    1. Booker T. Washington
      - a. Former slave turned school teacher
      - b. Suggested black people should go along with segregation and instead of worrying about the situations, do everything they could to better themselves
    2. W. E. B. Dubois
      - a. Suggested that black people could not better themselves until they had equal access
      - b. Along with other black and white leaders, founded the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

H. Roosevelt and the World

1. "Speak softly and Carry a Big Stick"
2. Wanted to expand America internationally
3. Philippines remained under the control of the U.S. after the Spanish American War
  - a. The Filipino people were unhappy under the rule of U.S.
  - b. Gradually over 30 years were given more self autonomy
  - c. Did not gain complete autonomy until after World War II
4. Panama Canal
  - a. Already company trying to build
  - b. U.S. purchased contract
  - c. Some disagreement with the Columbian government who was in control of Panama. This Government did not want Panama to have control of their own company and so Panama rebelled
  - d. U.S. sent Navy to stop Columbian troops from sailing into Panama
  - e. Treaty ended the disagreement
    1. America retained control of canal zone
    2. Complete control returned to panama in 1999
    3. Canal opened in 1914 linking Atlantic with Pacific
5. Roosevelt Corollary to Monroe Doctrine

**Monroe Doctrine**

James Monroe

Western Hemisphere

(Central, South, or North America) was not to be further colonized by any European country

**Roosevelt Corollary**

T.R.

United States has the right to intervene in Latin America in cases of "flagrant and chronic wrongdoing by a Latin nation"

U.S. would act as the "policeman" to keep Latin nations in line

6. Great White Fleet
  - a. Japan was trying to conquer the world and became involved in a war with Russia (Russo-Japanese war)
  - b. T.R. was involved in the peace process for this conflict
  - c. In December of 1907 sixteen battleships from Virginia around South America and over to Japan then on around the world
  - d. T.R. thought this would intimidate Japan but instead they were glad to see it
  - e. For a time it bettered relations with Japan

VIII. William Howard Taft become President

- A. Wanted reform but used more conservative methods than Roosevelt
- B. Presidency known for a few things
  1. Congressional reform
  2. Tariff problems
  3. Split with Roosevelt
    - a. After leaving office, T.R. went on extended trip but even abroad heard bad things about Taft whom he had handpicked as his replacement
    - b. T.R. stretched the law to get what he wanted while Taft tried to follow the law

- c. Also disagreed over antitrust regulation
- C. Dollar Diplomacy

IX. Woodrow Wilson and election of 1912

- A. Dissension among the Republicans between Taft and Roosevelt splits the party
- B. T.R breaks off and forms the Progressive Party (AKA Bull Moose Party)
- C. Democrats nominate Wilson
- D. Republicans nominate Taft
- E. Wilson is elected
- F. Wilson's presidency is known for the following reforms and the Great War
  - 1. Underwood Tariff Act of 1913
    - a. Genuine tariff reform
    - b. Est. income tax to replace the money lost by slashing the tax by 1/3
  - 2. Federal Reserve Act 1907
    - a. Divided nation into 12 banking districts with regional Federal Reserve Banks overseeing each district
  - 3. Clayton Anti-trust Act
    - a. Strengthened Sherman Anti-trust Act
    - b. Exempted labor unions from the regulations set forth for antitrust legislation

X. Transportation and Technology

- A. Automobile
  - 1. 1896
  - 2. Henry Ford begins marketing "horseless carriage"
  - 3. His company made one car Model T which came in any color as long as it was black
  - 4. Ford was run in an assembly line making it easier to put the car together because everyone had a specialized job
  - 5. Cars were affordable for the time
    - a. \$800 at first
    - b. By 1916, \$ 360 (\$7,128.46/today)
    - c. By 1925, \$260 (\$3,206.68/today)
- B. Airplanes
  - 1. December 17, 1903
  - 2. Orville and Wilbur Wright made first successful flight
  - 3. Kitty Hawk, NC
  - 4. 12 seconds/120 feet
- C. Agriculture
  - 1. Great need for food in the city because of the move to city
  - 2. Farmers were able to sell all they could grow at a high price
  - 3. Development of traffic
  - 4. Golden age of farming
- D. Medicine
  - 1. Mayo Clinic established in 1901
    - a. Rochester MN

- b. Private group medicine
    - c. Research facility
  - 2. Johns Hopkins Medical School 1893
    - a. Baltimore MD
  - 3. Yellow Fever
    - a. Discovered how was transmitted
    - b. Discovered that if they eliminate the places mosquito's thrive, deaths in tropical areas decreased
- E. Education
  - 1. Emphasis on students no subject
  - 2. Experience rather than rote memorization
  - 3. Stressed vocational training
  - 4. Secular Humanism
    - a. Denies existence of God and affirms the goodness and perfectibility of man
    - b. Whatever works is right
- F. Religion
  - 1. Modernism (Darwinism into Christianity)
  - 2. Social Gospel
    - a. Replaced regeneration of the individual with regeneration of society through social reform
    - b. Man gets better and closer to God if society does
  - 3. Bible Institutes
    - a. Curriculum is all Bible or church related
    - b. Diploma instead of degree
    - c. Bible Conferences
      - Week or longer revival or classes studying the Bible
    - d. Moody Bible Institute in Chicago
  - 4. Billy Sunday
    - a. Baseball player living hard life
    - b. Went to revival became Christian
      - c. Became great evangelist